

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application, as amended, and consideration of the following remarks. Applicants have amended the claims to more particularly point out what Applicants regard as the invention. Claims 1-15 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. No new matter has been added as a result of the amendment. Support for the amendment can be found, for example, in page 6 lines 3-5 of Applicants application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §103

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Longacre, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,264,105) Examiner states in pertinent art that:

[...] Although Longacre does not explicitly teach the reflectors for also providing visual aiming assistance, he/she teaches an aimer 23 for providing visual aiming assistance. [...] the aimer 23 is functional supplement to the reflector 24 for performing the same function as the claimed reflectors. Therefore, it would have been obvious to use the aimer 23 in addition to the reflectors 24 to obtain the invention as specified in claims 1 and 7.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection because Longacre does not render the claimed invention obvious as claimed in claims 1 and 7 as amended.

With regard to claims 1 and 7 as amended, the Applicants application teaches, in page 6 lines 3-5, "An aperture 203 shaped by surface area 204 allows light reflected from

surface 204 to exit reflector 105 in such manner as to produce a uniformly illuminated pattern 110 with sharp edges.” The sharp edges define a boundary of the target area to be scanned therefore allowing precise positioning of the device for proper sensing of the illuminated target area (page 5 lines 22-27). Longacre teaches an aimer 23 for providing
5 visual aiming assistance for guiding the direction only (“at or about a target object T”, col. 2 lines 59-61). Longacre also teaches reflector 24 for directing light direction only (“for directing light ... in the direction of target object T”, col. 2, lines 64-66). Neither the aimer 23 nor the reflector 24 produces the element of “an illuminated pattern with sharp edges” as recited in the claims 1 and 7 as amended. The combination cannot be
10 interpreted to disclose or suggest the claimed element. Because the combination of references misses elements that provide capabilities not suggested by the prior art, the combination does not render the claimed invention obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103. Therefore, the combination cannot render obvious Applicants invention as claimed in claims 1 and 7 as amended, and Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the
15 rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over the combination.

Allowable Subject Matter

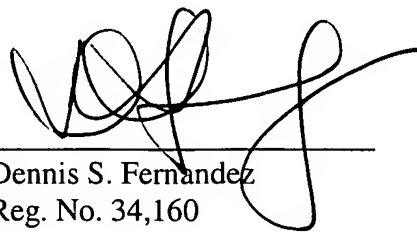
In the Office Action, claims 13-15 are allowed; claims 2-6 and 8-12 are objected
20 to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As explained above regarding the obviousness rejection, Applicants respectfully submit that Longacre does not render the claimed invention obvious as claimed in claims 1 and 7 as amended. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection of the dependent claims 2-6 and 8-12.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes that all of the claims 1-15 are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a timely Notice of Allowance. If for any reason, the Examiner believes any of the claims are not in condition for allowance, he is encouraged to phone the undersigned at (650) 325-4999 so that any remaining issues may be resolved.

The above changes are believed not to add new matter, as support is found in the specification.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 2/1/06

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